



Roinn Talmhaíochta

(Department of Agriculture)

BRAINSE IASCAIGH

(Fisheries Branch)

REPORT

ON THE

SEA AND INLAND FISHERIES

FOR THE YEAR

1955,

incorporating Statistics of the Capture of Salmon, Sea
Trout and Eels.

DUBLIN:
PUBLISHED BY THE STATIONERY OFFICE.

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NOTE:—Sea fish are divided into two categories, pelagic and demersal. The term "pelagic" (Greek: "pelagos", the sea) is applied to those fish which usually swim at or near the surface of the water. The main varieties of pelagic fish landed are herrings, mackerel and sprats. The term "demersal" (Latin: "Demergere", to plunge down) is applied to those fish which live during adult life at or near the sea bottom. The chief species landed are turbot, brill, soles, plaice, cod, haddock, hake, ling, whiting, conger eel and ray (skate). Shellfish consist of two classes, viz., molluscs, of which the main varieties gathered are oysters, mussels, scallops, periwinkles and cockles, and crustaceans—lobsters, crawfish, crabs, shrimps and prawns.

REPORT

OF THE

MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE

ON THE

SEA AND INLAND FISHERIES

FOR THE YEAR

1955.

PART I.

SEA FISHERIES.

The steady increase in the total production of sea-fish, other than shellfish, which has been evident since 1951 was well maintained in 1955. Quantity and value increased by 19.2% and 7.9% respectively over the corresponding figures for 1954. Of the total 303,519 cwt. landed in 1955, demersal fish amounted to 193,916 cwt., while pelagic fish came to 109,603 cwt. The total value of all classes of fish excluding salmon taken from the sea in 1955 was £882,298, compared with £790,327 for 1954. The following table gives the quantity and value of sea-fish (excluding shellfish which cannot be shown in total quantity, as some classes are dealt with in numbers and others by weight) landed each year since 1946 :—

Year	Cwt.	£
1955	303,519	686,195
1954	254,714	635,802
1953	222,516	545,105
1952	203,000	478,774
1951	187,645	431,875
1950	214,236	442,309
1949	234,674	507,342
1948	385,243	595,647
1947	316,438	547,185
1946	326,039	562,769

The quantity and value of each variety of fish landed in 1955 is given in Appendix 1, and the average price per cwt. realised for the landings of demersal and pelagic fish is given in Appendix 2. Weather conditions in 1955 were, on the whole, favourable for the various kinds of fishing and as a result landings were regular throughout the year. No serious shortages in market supplies

occurred, and prices did not fluctuate so widely as in some previous years. The principal ports as regards total value of landings were Killybegs, Dingle, Galway, Dun Laoghaire, Castletownbere, Howth and Arklow. Castletownbere has come rapidly to the forefront in the last year or two. The landings are being made chiefly by boats based in West Cork, and there is, accordingly, good reason to hope that the port is being restored to a permanent place among the leading fishing ports of the country.

Although the total catch was, on the whole, sufficient to meet market requirements, occasional scarcities of particular varieties due to weather or off-season conditions, made some imports desirable. As in previous years, importation was permissible only under licence issued under the Fish (Regulation of Import) (No. 2) Order, 1938. The total quantity of fresh and frozen fish imported amounted to 8,091 cwt., valued at £27,765.

DEMERSAL FISHERY.—The quantity landed in 1955 showed an increase of 23,990 cwt., while the value increased by £52,500 compared with 1954. Of the total landing of 193,916 cwt. the three fishing vessels operated by An Bord Iascaigh Mhara produced 8,152 cwt. The balance, 185,764 cwt., represents the landings by the inshore fishermen, and is a significant increase compared with 1954, when the figure was 163,514 cwt. Noticeable decreases in the average unit price as shown in Appendix 2 occurred in the cases of cod, haddock, ling, plaice, ray and turbot. With the exception of turbot, increases took place in weight of these varieties landed. Brill, conger and hake were the only varieties showing improvement in the average price per cwt., compared with 1954. The quantity and value of demersal fish landed each year since 1946, are set out hereunder :—

Year		Cwt.	£	Average value per cwt.
				s. d.
1955	...	193,916	593,190	61 2
1954	...	169,926	540,690	63 7
1953	...	147,757	451,901	61 2
1952	...	134,841	397,276	58 11
1951	...	119,055	354,536	59 7
1950	...	119,645	354,702	61 0
1949	...	151,537	416,275	54 11
1948	...	152,567	423,436	55 6
1947	...	143,677	397,008	55 1
1946	...	156,444	410,021	52 5

PELAGIC FISHERY.—*Herrings*: The herring catch in 1955 improved by 28,238 cwt. or 41% over the 1954 figure of 68,322 cwt., but the total value at £73,782 represented an increase of only £934, or 1.3%. The average price per cwt., therefore, decreased to 15/3d. from 21/4d in 1954. This decline is attributable to the substantial increase in the quantity landed, and the clearance for fish meal production at low prices of spent herring

landed from Donegal Bay in late Autumn and Winter. Appendix 4 shows the main centres at which landings were made.

Comparative figures of quantity, value and average price for herring landings in each of the past ten years, are set out in the following table :—

Year	Cwt.	£	Average value per cwt.	
			s.	d.
1955 ...	96,560	73,782	15	3
1954 ...	68,322	72,848	21	4
1953 ...	58,981	70,066	23	9
1952 ...	54,947	60,451	22	0
1951 ...	49,823	56,830	22	10
1950 ...	67,840	55,438	16	4
1949 ...	45,300	49,438	21	10
1948 ...	73,050	73,828	20	3
1947 ...	124,918	111,284	17	10
1946 ...	100,494	96,819	19	3

The greatest improvement in quantity landed took place on the north coast where the catch increased to 52,571 cwt., i.e. 23,445 cwt. or 80.5% over the 1954 total. Killybegs with 20,840 cwt., mostly spent herring from Donegal Bay, and Bunbeg with 15,476 cwt., mainly large fulls, accounted for the major portion of the total landings, on this coast. The average price yielded for this coast, which is in fact the Donegal coast, was 12/9d. per cwt. Excluding the landings at Killybegs, for which the average return was 10/- per cwt., the average return for the rest of the coast was 14/9d. per cwt. A British combination of curers operated at Burtonport where they handled 895 cran for production of marinated fillets. An Bord Iascaigh Mhara and one private concern engaged in curing operations—the former at Bunbeg and the latter at Gortnasate. The equivalent of about 1,000 whole barrels of large fulls was cured up to the end of the year.

The south coast catch increased by 4,668 cwt. to 32,387 cwt., 22,404 cwt. of which was landed at Dunmore East, making it the top herring port in the country in 1955. The bulk of the Dunmore East landing was exported, either fresh to England or in salt by carriers direct to Holland. Ballycotton with 3,360 cwt. was the only other south coast port at which an appreciable quantity of herring was landed. The average price returned to the fishermen on this coast was 16/4d. per cwt.

A slight increase in quantity took place on the east coast, the total being 8,530 cwt., of which Greenore and Carlingford, Clogherhead and Howth accounted for 93%. The average return to the fishermen was 18/9d. per cwt.

West coast landings dropped slightly to 3,072 cwt., which was caught mainly off Achill Island. The catches were to a great extent disposed of to local buyers and realised an average of 36/11d. per cwt.

MACKEREL.—Mackerel landings decreased both in quantity and total value to 11,563 cwt. and £18,913 respectively. The

average value per cwt. compared with 1954 increased by 3/- to 32/9d. per cwt. Appendix 5 shows the main centres at which landings were made. Baltimore in County Cork, Valentia in County Kerry, Lacken in County Mayo, and Port Inver in County Donegal were the main landing centres. Landings and values for the past ten years are shown in the following table :—

Year		Cwt.	£	Average value per cwt.	
				s.	d.
1955	...	11,563	18,913	32	9
1954	...	14,766	21,967	29	9
1953	...	15,374	22,976	29	11
1952	...	13,018	20,967	32	3
1951	...	17,017	19,959	23	5
1950	...	19,838	20,399	20	7
1949	...	27,220	38,399	28	3
1948	...	150,076	95,673	12	9
1947	...	38,260	36,011	18	10
1946	...	66,934	55,366	16	7

SHELLFISH.—As it is customary to trade in some classes of shellfish by weight and others by count, it is not possible to express the year's results as a whole in weight. Appendix 1 contains particulars as to the quantity of each class taken in 1955. In the year the value of shellfish landed increased to £196,103 or by 26.9% over the 1954 figure of £154,525. Substantial increases in the catches of lobsters, crawfish, mussels and scallops were responsible for the overall improvement. Landings of crabs, oysters and periwinkles decreased slightly. Continued and expanding demand on continental markets for lobsters, crawfish, scallops was an important factor in increasing production. Exports to the Continent in 1955 were valued at £152,204, compared with £110,539 in 1954. France was the destination of by far the major portion of the exports to the Continent. Markets in Great Britain continued to take considerable quantities of shellfish generally. A special feature was made of the fishing for Norway lobsters on the east coast during 1955. Several boats working out of Clogherhead during the summer months made landings to the value of £10,000 at that port. The total value of shellfish landed in each of the past ten years was :—

	£
1955	196,103
1954	154,525
1953	142,554
1952	124,196
1951	93,604
1950	87,119
1949	108,487
1948	100,466
1947	106,563
1946	126,821

PERSONNEL AND VESSELS.—In compiling the statistics for 1955 as to the number of men who found employment and the number of boats engaged in the industry, it was decided to include in the category of those “solely engaged” only the men who were engaged regularly throughout the year, and did not depend on any other occupation for a portion of their livelihoods. As to the category “partially engaged”, it was decided to exclude men who engaged only in fishing for their own household use. The men reckoned in the category are, accordingly, those who engaged in seasonal fishing as available for pelagic, demersal or shellfish for marketing.

Having regard to the foregoing and other factors such as emigration, the total number of men partially engaged dropped from 7,606 in 1954 to 5,984 in 1955. The number of men solely engaged as fishermen at 1,630 showed a slight reduction on the figure for 1954, which was 1,725. The classification of boats engaged in fishing in 1955 was reviewed on much the same lines as the classification of the men employed. The boats used only for what may be termed subsistence fishing were excluded from the statistics and that accounts mainly for the overall reduction of 508 in the number of boats returned as engaged during 1955, compared with 1954.

The number of motor boats exceeding 15 tons gross in use in 1955 was 24 more than in 1954. This represents a considerable increase in the catching power of the fishing fleet, and the proportion of the total landings which can be attributed to this class of vessel is rising from year to year. Motor boats of less than 15 tons gross in service during 1955 numbered 565, compared with 569 in 1954. Appendix 6 gives details of personnel engaged in fishing and the numbers, classification and regional distribution of fishing craft in 1955.

AN BORD IASCAIGH MHARA.—The Board's Third Annual Report (including financial accounts) for the year ended 31st March, 1955, was published during the year. The main features of the Board's activities in that year were as follows. The output of new fishing vessels from the four yards operated by the Board during the year was ten 50 feet boats of an aggregate gross tonnage of 261 tons and valued at £73,000 and one 60 feet vessel was built by an outside firm to the Board's order. In addition, three vessels were reconditioned in the Board's yards and four in other yards. As at 31st March, 1955, seven 50 feet boats were under construction at the Board's establishments, and one 60 feet, two 55 feet, one 50 feet, and one 45 feet boats were on order for the board with other concerns. New construction issued on hire-purchase within the year consisted of one vessel of 60 feet length and ten of 50 feet length. Eight secondhand boats were also provided. The values of issues of boats and gear by the

Board on hire-purchase, credit sale, or for cash, were—

Motor fishing boats, engines, machinery, un-engined craft, etc.	£104,276
Fishing gear	£35,211

The quantity and value of sea fish (excluding shellfish and imported fish) handled by the Board in the year ended 31st March, 1955, was 107,983 cwt., valued at £414,006, as compared with 90,135 cwt., valued at £315,534 in the year ended 31st March, 1954. The quantity and value of white fish imported in the same periods were, respectively, 3,288 cwt., valued at £26,042 and 2,702 cwt., valued at £25,395. The value of shellfish, other than mussels treated at Cromane station, County Kerry, sold during the year was £2,777, as against £3,111 in the period to the 31st March, 1954. Mussels treated on a fee basis at Cromane for fishermen amounted to 8,234 cwt. for the year, as compared with 2,600 cwt. for the previous year.

The financial accounts in respect of the three vessels "Loch Laoi", "Loch Lein" and "Loch Lorgan" showed a loss during the year of approximately £10,000, as compared with £15,000 in the previous year. The quantity of fish landed by the three vessels during the year showed an increase over the previous year of 2,726 cwt., the total for 1954/55 being 7,399 cwt., as against 4,673 cwt. for 1953/54.

The production at the Killybegs Factory during the year was as follows—

	cwt.
Frozen fish of various varieties	2,418
Smoked kippers	828
Fish Meal	1,798
Fish Oil	51

Towards the close of the year the Board found it possible to secure low temperature cold storage accommodation in Limerick City where they have set up a distribution centre for frozen fish. The plans for the buildings to be constructed at Galway, Caherciveen, Schull and Ballycotton were prepared during the year.

The Board received during the year from State funds, grants and advances amounting to £131,295 towards administrative expenses and development works, including issues of boats and gear on hire-purchase or credit sale terms.

AN COMHLACHAS IASCAIGH MHARA.—During the year ended 30th June, 1955, the Committee of Management held eleven ordinary meetings. They also had one meeting with the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, and two joint meetings with An Bord Iascaigh Mhara at which recommendations designed for the improvement of conditions within the sea-fishing industry were fully discussed. The annual

general meeting of the Comhlachas was held in Howth on 18th September, 1955. Publication of the fortnightly journal *Irish Fishing and Fish Trades Gazette*, which under the Committee's direction made its initial appearance in September, 1953, was continued throughout the year.

SEA FISHERIES PROTECTION.—In the duty of protecting the exclusive fishery limits of the State, vessels of the Naval Service of the Department of Defence maintained patrols about the coast, and two vessels of extern registration were found fishing within the limits. Prosecutions and convictions took place in both cases. The Garda Síochána also rendered valuable service in enforcing the laws bearing on protection of fisheries in general. In the enforcement of the regulations regarding the minimum measurements of sea-fish landed, many inspections of consignments were made by officers of the Department, and prosecutions resulted in 14 cases.

SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS:—During 1955, further experiments were made in the use of the specially designed scallop dredge mentioned in the Report for 1954. These experiments indicated that the new dredge is more efficient than the dredge in common use, but further investigation is necessary to establish the exact relationship between the relative efficiencies of the two types of dredge. Data relating to scallops collected over the past five years has now been worked up, and a report was being prepared at the close of the year. A joint paper giving the results of the collaboration mentioned last year between an officer of the Fisheries Branch and an officer of the British Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, was prepared for publication. During the year a short survey was made of the molluscan resources of Mulroy Bay, County Donegal, at the request of a local development Committee. Scallop were found to be scarce and of poor quality; cockles to be plentiful and of good quality, and mussels to be plentiful, but of poor quality. A survey of the mussel beds in the Boyne estuary was also made during the autumn, so as to ascertain the state of rehabilitation of the beds following the deterioration caused by the unprecedented floods in December, 1954. During July an officer of the Fisheries Branch spent two weeks at the fisheries station at Burham-on-Crouch, Essex, England, where research work into oysters and other shellfish was in progress. His visit furnished much information of interest and assistance in connection with the investigations into oyster culture being carried on in Clew Bay.

Experimental fishing for common prawns (*Leander serratus*), which are widely spread around the south and west coasts was again carried out at selected places with a new form of pot. Much useful information for fishermen was collected, and it is proposed to issue a pamphlet on this form of fishing. A new

departure in the use of creels for fishing for the edible crab (*Cancer pagurus*) was supervised by an officer of the Fisheries Branch. Thirty-four such creels were fished at a selected place on the south coast. Satisfactory results were obtained as an average of 18 dozen crabs per day for the period September-October and the first week in November were taken. During November the crabs were found to have deteriorated in quality and to be of little commercial value.

As in previous years, surface temperatures of sea water at Coningsbeg Lightship were taken twice daily throughout the year and the data collected has been forwarded to the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, for inclusion in the synoptic charts prepared by that body.

Specimens of three rare marine fishes were identified in 1955. A Ray's Bream (*Brama raii*) was found dead on the beach at Rosbeg, County Donegal, on 21st January, 1955. This species, though of very infrequent occurrence, has been recorded before from Irish waters. A Plain Bonito (*Axaxis rochei*), which belongs to the mackerel family, was taken on the night of 23rd September, 1955, by Mr. M. Whelan-O'Brien, about 200 yards off the head of the pier at Ballycotton. This is the first specimen of this species recorded from Irish waters and a brief description of it was published in the *Irish Naturalists' Journal* for October, 1955. A third rare fish, the Dusky Perch (*Epinephelus gigas*) was taken by Mr. Thomas Joyce (Michael) whilst fishing in the Aran trawler "Ros Einne" in Gregory Sound (Aran Islands) on 16th November, 1955. This species had also not been previously recorded from Irish waters, although it is very widely spread in its distribution in the Atlantic Ocean. All three specimens have been deposited in the National Museum, Dublin. At the end of December, 1955, a much battered specimen of the Portugese-man-of-war (*Physalia sp.*) was picked up on the sea-shore at Dunbeacon in Dunmanus Bay, Co. Cork. This species of jellyfish is only occasionally found around the Irish coasts.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE EXPLORATION OF THE SEA.—The Inspector and Scientific Adviser attended the annual conference from the 24th October to 1st November, in Copenhagen. The proceedings of the Salmon and Trout, Shellfish, Atlantic Slope, Hydrographical and Statistical Committees were of particular interest. This country's representative was re-elected Chairman of the Salmon and Trout Committee.

PERMANENT COMMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES CONVENTION OF 1946.—An informal meeting of representatives of the countries adhering to the 1946 Convention to discuss suggestions for the revision of the Convention was held in London in February, 1955, and a meeting of the Permanent Commission was held in September, 1955, also in London. A further conference took place in September, 1955, in London

as regards the revision of the Convention. These meetings were attended by officers of the Fisheries Branch. It was not found possible to get agreement on all points at the meeting in September 1955, and a further meeting is expected during 1956.

CHALLENGER SOCIETY.—This Society was founded to promote the study of oceanography, and it holds joint meetings with scientists engaged in work at various research laboratories in Great Britain for the purpose of discussing modern developments in marine investigations and related subjects. An officer of the Fisheries Branch attended one of these joint meetings at Port Erin, Isle of Man, in September, 1955.

MARINE WORKS.—This Department collaborated with the Office of Public Works and other Government Departments and Local Authorities in the provision of better landing facilities for fishermen. The main item to be recorded under this head was the completion of the large scale marine works at Purteen, County Mayo.

LEGISLATION.—The Sea Fisheries (Amendment) Bill, 1955 (No. 17 of 1955) was enacted during the year. The Act provides the necessary statutory authority for An Bord Iascaigh Mhara to establish a superannuation scheme for its staff.

PART II.

INLAND FISHERIES.

EXTENT OF FISHERY DISTRICTS AND NAMES OF THE
PRINCIPAL RIVERS IN EACH DISTRICT.

District	Extent of District	Principal Rivers
No. 1 Dublin	Skerries Head to Wicklow Head.	Liffey Vartry
No. 2 Wexford	Wicklow Head to Kiln Bay, east of Bannow Bay, Co. Wexford.	Slaney Avoca
No. 3 Waterford	Kiln Bay, east of Bannow Bay to Helvick Head, Co. Waterford.	Suir Barrow Nore.
No. 4 Lismore	Helvick Head to Ballycotton Head, Co. Cork.	Blackwater, Funshion, Bride, Awbeg.
No. 5 Cork	Ballycotton Head to Crow Head, Co. Cork.	Lee, Owenboy, Bandon, Argideen, Ilen, Mealagh, Owvane, Coomhola, Glengariff, Adrigole.
No. 7 Kerry	Crow Head, Co. Cork, to Kerry Head, Co. Kerry.	Roughty, Shoen, Finnihy, Blackwater, Sneem, Laune, Flesk, Maine, Caragh, Curraue, Cummeragh, Inny.
No. 8 Limerick	Kerry Head, Co. Kerry, to Hag's Head, Co. Clare.	Shannon, Deel, Fergus, Mulcair, Little and Upper Brosna, Inny, Maigue, Feale.
No. 9 ¹ Galway	Hag's Head to a point near Cashla Coastguard Station, Co. Galway.	Corrib, Claregalway.
No. 9 ² Connemara	Cashla Coastguard Station to Slyne Head, Co. Galway.	Ballinahinch, Recess, Cashla, Owengowla, Invermore, Inverbeg, Sereche, Furrace.
No. 10 ¹ Ballinakill	Slyne Head to Pigeon Point, Westport Bay, Co. Mayo.	Culfin, Errif, Bundoerragha, Dawros, Carrowniskey, Buno- owen (Louisburgh).
No. 10 ² Bangor	Pigeon Point to Benwee Head, Co. Mayo.	Newport, Burrishoole, Owenduff, Owengarve, Owenmore, Glenamoy.

District	Extent of District	Principal Rivers
No. 11 Ballina	Benwee Head to Coonamore Point, Co. Sligo.	Moy, Cloonaghmore (Palmerston), Easkey.
No. 12 Sligo	Coonamore Point to Mullaghmore Headland, Co. Sligo.	Ballisodare, Garavogue (Sligo), Bonet, Drumm-cliff.
No. 13 Ballyshannon	Mullaghmore Headland to Rossan Point, Co. Donegal.	Erne, Bundrowes, Bunduff, Eske, Faney Water, Oily, Glen.
No. 14 ¹ Letterkenny	Rossan Point to Malin Head, Co. Donegal.	Owenea, Gweebarra, Gweedore (Crolly), C l a d y , Lackagh, Lennon, Crana.
No. 17 ² Dundaik	Carlingford Lough to Clogher Head, Co. Louth.	Fane, Dee, Glyde.
No. 17 ¹ Drogheda	Clogher Head to Skerries Head, Co. Dublin.	Boyne, Blackwater, Deel.

NOTE.—The area comprised in the former No. 14² or Moville District was, by the Foyle Fisheries Act, 1952, incorporated in the Foyle Area which is administered by the Foyle Fisheries Commission.

INLAND FISHERIES.

Every holder of a licence to fish for salmon, sea trout and eels is required to furnish details of his catches in a prescribed form under the provisions of the Statistics (Salmon, Sea Trout and Eels) (No. 2) Order, 1945. The total catch of salmon by all methods in 1955 according to these returns was 1,261,402 lb. valued at £363,788, compared with 1,976,677 lb. valued at £500,243 for the previous year. The catch of sea trout amounted to 73,201 lb. valued at £10,824, compared with 70,854 lb. valued at £10,800 for 1954. These figures do not include the catches made in the former Moville Fishery District, which is now a part of the Foyle conservancy area. The catch in this area is given in the section of this report relating to the Foyle Fisheries Commission. The total quantity and value of salmon and sea trout taken in the years 1953, 1954 and 1955 is given in Appendix II.

The 1955 season was characterised by fairly heavy rainfall up to the end of June, after which there was a prolonged drought lasting in many areas to the end of the season. This gave unfavourable conditions for estuarine netting until about the end of June, and favourable conditions thereafter for the rather short period of the open season which remained. With the high water temperatures prevailing (over 75°F. or about 24°C. were recorded several times) the salmon generally were not inclined to move actively upstream.

Runs of all groups of spring fish were not good in 1955. From mid-May until the end of June there were very poor runs of fish. Grilse were again late—up to three weeks or more in some areas—when compared with the seasons up to 1952. It is noteworthy that grilse have run very late in the years 1953, 1954 and 1955. This coupled with the prolonged drought must have accounted for the poor catches of grilse in 1955, in many areas. When the weather broke towards the close of the open fishing season, large numbers of fish ran into many rivers. Particulars of catches of salmon made in each district for the years 1953, 1954 and 1955 are given in Appendices 10 and 14. The catch of salmon for 1955 was distributed as to the various methods of capture, as follows—

Draft nets	48.1%
Drift nets	18.6%
Rod and line	19.5%
Stake nets and other commercial methods	13.8%

The percentage for rod and line has shown a steady increase in recent years. Although the total catch of salmon in 1955 fell by 37%, the actual number of salmon taken on the rod was only reduced by about 14% of the 1954 rod catch. The average

weight of salmon taken on the rod throughout the country was 8.6 lb., compared with 8.8 lb. in 1954 and 7.8 lb. in 1953. The maintenance of the high average weight may be attributed to the high proportion of spring fish taken on the rod in 1955 due to the poor angling conditions for grilse during the runs.

The total number of rod licences (excluding endorsements) issued in 1955 was 6,604, an increase of 409 licences on those of 1954. The average catch per rod was 4.3 salmon weighing 37.3 lb. and valued by their captors at £10 9s. These figures are somewhat less than the corresponding figures for 1954. The highest average weight taken on the rod was again for the Drogheda District (15.6 lb.), where the bulk of the catches are large spring fish. The lowest average weight was 6.2 lb. for the Galway District in which the catch on rod was virtually all grilse.

While the catch by rod and line dropped slightly (from 50,705 fish in 1954 to 46,754 fish in 1955) the total weight of sea trout (73,201 lb.) caught was the highest for many years and was distributed, as follows—

Rod and line	57.8%
Draft nets	37.6%
Other commercial methods	4.6%

The average catch per rod for the entire country was 7.1 fish and 6.4 lb., valued at about 18/-. More than 10 fish per rod licence were landed in the Connemara (23.7), Cork (15.9) and Ballinakill (15.1) Fishery Districts. Particulars of catches of sea trout in the various Fishery Districts are given in Appendices 11 and 15.

The drift net fishery off the coast of Donegal and the northern coast of Mayo depends for its success on the runs of grilse and suitable weather conditions. As the runs of grilse were very late, catches in the first three weeks fishing were very poor, and when the grilse did run on to the coast calm, fine weather prevented fishing so that results generally were very much lower than for the past few years.

The migration of smolts to the sea in 1955 was reported to be satisfactory. The spawning season of 1955/56 was also satisfactory.

There is increased danger of furunculosis when large numbers of fish are compelled to congregate in restricted waters, particularly during warm weather, but despite the prolonged drought from June onwards, few instances of this disease came to notice. There was, however, extensive fish mortality in some rivers from June onwards due, directly, it is considered, to the very high water temperatures which as already stated reached 75°F. on several occasions, but such mortality was not as widespread as might have been expected.

The yield of the eel fisheries showed a considerable improvement on that of 1954, the catch being 187,177 lb. valued at £19,433,

compared with 143,372 lb. valued at £17,993, for 1954. During the season water conditions were more favourable to the capture of eels than was the case in 1954, and this, no doubt, accounts for the improved catch. Appendix 12 shows the catches of eels as to quantity and value for each Fishery District in which eel fishing was carried on in the years 1953, 1954 and 1955.

BOARDS OF CONSERVATORS.—The receipts and expenditure of Boards of Conservators during the fishery years ended 30th September, 1955, and 30th September, 1954, were :—

RECEIPTS :	1955	1954
	£	£
Licence Duty	17,044	16,466
Fishery Rates	31,086	28,038
Special grant to Limerick Board by Electricity Supply Board	3,000	—
Subscriptions	257	678
Exchequer Grants	13,397	6,400
Miscellaneous Receipts	8,757	2,588
	<u>£73,541</u>	<u>£54,170</u>

EXPENDITURE :

Salaries, etc.	11,818	10,916
Travel, etc.	11,684	12,320
Protection of Rivers	37,257	34,609
Law Costs	1,992	1,730
	<u>£62,751</u>	<u>£59,575</u>

The foregoing summary of receipts and expenditure does not include sums received by way of special local licence duty surrendered to the Exchequer in pursuance of Section 13 of the Fisheries (Tidal Waters) Act, 1934. Details of the financial receipts and expenditure of each Board are given in Appendix 16.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE INDUSTRY.—The number of fishermen who engaged in seasonal netting for salmon in tidal waters under common law right is reckoned at 3,527, and 319 others were employed by proprietors of commercial salmon fisheries. The number of persons who found employment during the fishing season as professional anglers or ghillies was 674. Boards of Conservators employed 1,125 persons on the protection of fisheries, while 81 others were employed by owners of private fisheries and by angling associations. A total of 5,726 persons, therefore, found either whole-time or part-time employment in the inland fisheries during the year, exclusive of persons who were employed in marketing or transport of fish.

INSTRUMENTS OF CAPTURE.—The total number of fishing licences of all kinds issued was 9,027, representing an increase of 337 on the total for 1954. The totals in recent years were 1954, 8,690; 1953, 8,444; 1952, 7,990; 1951, 7,563. In 1955 the number of whole season rod licences issued was 4,837 as compared with 4,416 in 1954 and the number of £1 licences valid from 1st July was 514 as compared with 450 in 1954. The number of endorsement licences remained at the same level but there was a reduction in the number of special 14 day licences from 1,329 in 1954 to 1,253 in 1955.

The numbers of the various classes of licences issued in each fishery district and the rates of licence duty are given in Appendices 17 and 18 respectively.

SALMON EXPORTS.—The quantity of salmon exported in 1955 was 11,135 cwt., valued at £451,874 as compared with 17,525 cwt., valued at £635,643 in 1954. These figures include salmon landed in Co. Donegal from waters in the area administered by the Foyle Fisheries Commission.

The 1955 figures show decreases of 6,390 cwt. in quantity and £183,769 in value on the 1954 figures. The decrease in quantity reflects the general fall in the yield of salmon in 1955. The average export price per cwt., at £40 11s. 8d., obtained in 1955 was higher than in 1954 when the figure was £36 5s. 5d.

The number of salmon exporters licensed under the Agricultural and Fishery Products (Regulation of Export) Act, 1947 (Export of Salmon) Order, 1950 (S.I. No. 90 of 1950) was 101. Of the total exported, 10,504 cwt. went to markets in Great Britain and the Six Counties and 398 cwt. to France. Small quantities went to Switzerland, Holland and Germany.

ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION OF SALMON AND TROUT.—During the 1954/55 spawning season conditions were reasonably satisfactory for the collection of parent fish but at Lismore high water interfered with the netting operations. A total of 555,000 salmon ova was distributed from hatcheries controlled or subsidised by the State. The bulk of these ova was obtained from the State hatchery at Glenties. The output of sea trout ova was again low. The production at Glenties was restricted as a result of the escape of parent fish from the ponds during a very high flood.

Conditions at the hatcheries for brown trout on Loughs Owel and Ennell were not as good as in the previous year. These hatcheries are operated by the Department in conjunction with two local angling associations and the output in 1954/55 season was 1,061,000 ova, a reduction of just over 300,000 ova on that of the previous year. A total of 703,000 ova was distributed to angling associations and others. The balance (358,000) ova was hatched and the resultant fry placed in local waters. Brown

trout ova, numbering 450,000 were imported from Great Britain for distribution to various hatching stations.

Details of the fry produced at all the hatcheries and hatching stations are given in Appendix 21.

SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS.—The investigations into the movements of salmon in the sea were continued during 1955. From 194 salmon and grilse, taken by drift nets off the north west coast (in Co. Donegal), and tagged and released, eighteen were recaptured in the Rivers Bann, Foyle, Owenea, Erne, Ballisodare and Moy or their tributaries and in Donegal Bay and off the coast of Donegal near Aranmore. A single re-capture of a fish tagged from drift nets in this region in 1954 was also made in Donegal Bay. A short report on the results of tagging of salmon and grilse at Portballintrae, Co. Antrim, carried out in collaboration with officers of the Ministry of Commerce, Belfast, was completed during the year with a view to publication in the *Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy*.

Tagging of kelts of salmon and sea trout was again carried on at five hatcheries as follows, Ballisodare, Co. Sligo, Banteer, Co. Cork, Glenties, Co. Donegal, Lismore, Co. Waterford and Treanlaur, Co. Mayo. A total of 715 salmon and grilse kelts and 267 sea trout were tagged and 43 re-captures, mostly of fish tagged in previous years were made. With a few exceptions the re-captures were all made in the rivers or estuaries of the rivers from which the fish had been taken for tagging.

Smolt tagging by means of a small square plastic tag was again carried out on the River Blackwater and on the River Shannon. Re-captures from previous years' smolt taggings had proved disappointing and it is hoped that the new tag will give more satisfactory results.

The experiments as to the movements of salmon in the estuary of the Shannon were continued during 1955. The number of fish tagged (122) was disappointing, and only 14 recaptures were recorded. Similar experiments were started in the River Erne but owing to the very poor runs of fish during the selected week-ends only 15 salmon and grilse were tagged. Experimental netting and tagging were carried on in the tidal waters of the Cashen and Hen Rivers. In these experiments 84 fish were tagged in the month of March in the Cashen and 26 were subsequently recaptured. Eleven fish only were tagged in the Hen in the month of April and of these, three were recaptured.

Considerable progress was made during the year in the surveys of the stocks of salmon in the Rivers Erne, Lee, Moy and Shannon. A survey into the spawning of salmon in the River Liffey was started at the end of November.

Officers of the Branch collaborated during the year with officers of the Ministry of Commerce, Belfast, in a research programme on the salmon and sea trout of the River Foyle which is under the management of the Foyle Fisheries Commission.

In all, 1,088 salmon and grilse, taken in two stake nets in Rosses Bay in the outer tidal waters of the River Foyle, were tagged and released. Reports on the collection of sets of scales and relevant data collected from the Foyle system in 1954 and on material collected in the 1955 tagging programme were prepared for publication in the Fourth Report of the Foyle Fisheries Commission. Material, consisting of scales of salmon and sea trout and relevant data were collected in 1955 from this river system and it is hoped to publish a report thereon in the Commission's Annual Report for 1956/57.

The investigation of the age and growth of brown trout in Caragh Lake (in Co. Kerry) was completed during the year and a report thereon was prepared for publication in the *Salmon and Trout Magazine*. Specimens of char from Lake Fad, near Clonmany and the Waterville River were obtained for examination during the year and a brief report on them has been published in the *Irish Naturalists' Journal*. Whilst carrying out experimental netting in the estuary of the River Erne in the summer of 1955 in connection with the investigation of movements of salmon in the tidal waters of that river a number of pollan (*Coregonus altior*) were taken. Samples of these pollan were retained for scientific examination and arrangements had been made at the end of the year for the publication of a brief report thereon in the *Irish Naturalists' Journal*. The pollan of the Erne system differ from those of Lough Neagh (*Coregonus pollan*) and the Shannon system, (*Coregonus elegans*).

In connection with the scheme for the removal of coarse fish from Loughs Rea, Glore and Barnagrow, referred to in previous Reports and which was the subject of a report in the *Department's Journal* (Vol. L. I), much material was collected relating to the pike of these three lakes. A report on this material entitled "Pike (*Esox lucius* L.) in three Irish Lakes" was published in the *Scientific Proceedings of the Royal Dublin Society*.

A member of the scientific staff of the Fisheries Branch who is a member of the Council of the Inland Fisheries Trust Incorporated carried out an examination of material collected by members of the Trust's staff from the stomach contents of pike taken in waters under the control of the Trust. A summary of the preliminary results of this investigation is contained in the Sixth Annual Report of the Trust's activities.

OFFENCES AGAINST THE FISHERY LAWS.—The number of prosecutions instituted during the year was 171 as compared with 292 in 1954. The Garda Síochána and angling associations continued to assist Boards of Conservators in the protection of inland fisheries during the year.

FOYLE FISHERIES COMMISSION.—Under the provisions of the Foyle Fisheries Act, 1952, the Foyle Fisheries Commission carried out the management of the tidal waters of the River

Foyle and the conservation and protection of the fisheries in the Foyle Area. The personnel of the Commission remained unchanged during the year.

The total catch of salmon and sea trout in the Area in 1955, as published in the fourth Annual Report of the Commission which covers the period of twelve months ended on 30th September, 1955, was as follows :—

	SALMON		SEA TROUT		TOTAL	
	Number	lb.	Number	lb.	Number	lb.
Nets	51,848	354,583	2,197	3,232	54,045	357,815
Rods	1,323	8,287	3,997	3,957	5,320	12,244
Total	53,171	362,870	6,194	7,189	59,365	370,059

The total yield from the fisheries in 1955 season was below average. Weather conditions which were exceptionally dry throughout most of the summer constituted the main factor in the reduced returns. The spring fishing did not suffer unduly but the grilse hung back in the sea and the estuarial waters and as a result net fishing in the river was disappointing.

The transitional period of three years during which the Commission was by statute empowered to deal at its discretion with the several fishery, *i.e.*, that part of the river Foyle which flows through Co. Derry, came to an end in April, 1955. It was decided that the Commission should continue to manage the several fishery and the transitional period was extended for a period of ten years. The Commission operated the fishery for its own account in 1955 as in 1954.

With the approval of the Minister, the Commission made the following regulations :—

Foyle Area (Licensing of Fishing Engines) Regulations, 1955, dated 12th January, 1955 ;

Foyle Area (Licensing of Fishing Engines) (No.2) Regulations, 1955, dated 20th April, 1955, and

Foyle Area (Rivers Faughan and Roe Angling) Regulations, 1955, dated 4th May, 1955.

INLAND FISHERIES TRUST INCORPORATED.—The Inland Fisheries Trust Incorporated continued during the year its activities in the promotion and development of brown trout fisheries. The grant-in-aid made available to the Trust from the Fisheries Vote in the financial year 1955/56 amounted to £10,000. According to the Secretary's Report which gives details of the Trust's work during the year 1955 and also financial statements for that year presented to the Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Trust held on 20th April, 1956, the following were the outstanding features of the Trust's activities in 1955. There was an appreciable increase in membership, which stood at approx-

imately 2,500 at the end of the year. A number of new waters were acquired, *i.e.*, Emy Lake (Emyvale, Monaghan), Castle Lake (Bailieboro, Co. Cavan), Reenydonagan Lake (Bantry, Co. Cork) and Glenbower Lake (Killeagh, Co. Cork). Extensive development work was undertaken, including the removal of pike and perch from trout waters, salvage of trout and salmon parr, and stocking with fry and fingerling brown and rainbow trout. Scientific investigations carried out included an investigation into the consumption of food by pike in Lough Mask, and the effect of commercial eel fishing on trout fishing in Lough Arrow. Electrical fishing technique and equipment were the subject of special study, and a considerable amount of new electrical gear was acquired. During the winter of 1954-55, 590,000 brown trout ova and 15,000 rainbow ova were handled by the Trust at the hatcheries at Lough Sheelin and elsewhere. A proportion of the resultant fry were distributed as alevins in selected nursery streams in various parts of the country as part of a general scheme for the development of fisheries in these areas. A large proportion of the fry was fed for six to thirteen weeks after absorption of the yolk-sac before being released. The remainder were brought to the fingerling stage before planting out in September. A small number of these fingerlings (brown trout) were sold for stocking purposes. As in previous years, the Trust cooperated with the tourist authority (Bord Fáilte Éireann) in fishery matters and as part of a scheme for the development of coarse fishing, tench were introduced by the Trust into a number of waters. The Board provided funds for carrying out major works of rehabilitation at Reenydonagan Lake and at Glenbower Lake, both in Co. Cork. An important development in 1955 was the decision to extend the Western Lakes Scheme, referred to in previous reports, to the Killarney Lakes.

SALMON RESEARCH TRUST OF IRELAND INCORPORATED.—This Trust was incorporated on 1st June, 1955, and was promoted under the joint auspices of the Minister for Agriculture and Messrs. Arthur Guinness, Son and Company, Ltd., with the object of conducting scientific research directed towards the general improvement in the public interest of the salmon and sea-trout fisheries. The Trust is financed by contributions from the Vote for Fisheries and from the Company. The Committee of Management of the Trust comprises three nominees of Messrs. Guinness and two nominees of the Minister. The Committee entered into an arrangement with the proprietor of the Burrishoole River fishery for the commencement of research into the life history of the salmon, sea-trout and other fishes of the river.

ENGINEERING.—Construction work in connection with the Electricity Supply Board's scheme on the River Lee, Co. Cork, and the River Clady, Co. Donegal, was in progress during the

year and visits were made to the sites in the fishery interest by engineers of the Fisheries Branch. Fish passes on the fish lock principle, as already constructed at Leixlip Dam, Co. Kildare, are to be installed at both sites; those on the River Clady being of a somewhat simpler pattern than those on the Lee. Proposals for the hydro-electric development of the River Mourne were studied and an appraisal of the possible effects of the proposed scheme on the fishery in this river, and the River Foyle system generally, was prepared at the request of the Foyle Fisheries Commission.

Arterial drainage work was continued by the Office of Public Works on the Corrib/Clare catchment in County Galway; the Rivers Glyde and Dee, Co. Louth; the River Feale, Co. Kerry; and work commenced on two new schemes in the River Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, and the Rye Water, Co. Kildare. Engineering consultations took place and inspections were carried out in these cases in the interests of the fisheries. On the Corrib/Clare system in particular the probable effects of drainage works on certain spawning tributaries were studied and special proposals were made for maintenance of the fish stocks during the progress of the scheme.

A source of concern during the year was the effects on the fisheries in rivers into which bog drainage is directed in connection with development schemes undertaken by Bord na Mona. Rivers particularly affected were those in the Boyne system and the Owenmore in County Mayo. Fisheries Branch engineers had consultations with engineers of Bord na Mona in the matter but a satisfactory solution of the problem had not been reached before the end of the year. Local sewerage schemes at Galway and Falcarragh (Co. Donegal) called for special consideration from the fishery viewpoint and recommendations in the interest of the fisheries were made to the authorities promoting the schemes. A fish pass designed in the Fisheries Branch engineering section was constructed at Castletown on the river Nore and has given satisfactory results.

Existing definitions of tidal and fresh water boundaries on the Rivers Fane (Louth), Feale (Kerry), and Owenmore (Mayo) were reviewed during the year. The investigations of the Rivers Fane and Owenmore boundaries were completed and new definitions were made.

At the request of the Salmon Research Trust, engineering advice was given in the design of ponds for the hatchery and rearing station being set up by the Trust at Newport, Co. Mayo. In addition, the extent of the catchment area of the Burrishoole Fishery (near Newport) on which the Trust proposes to establish its main scientific centre was surveyed and relevant maps and report prepared.

The Inspector and Engineer attended at Kiel, Germany, a conference on "workshop" lines held under the auspices of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation devoted to

the freezing and packaging of fish. This officer also attended a meeting in London of the international committee on fishing boat building of which he is a member, and during the year he continued to act as Chairman of An Bord Iascaigh Mhara. The Assistant Engineer visited Sweden on a study tour of fishery developments there particularly in relation to hydro-electric development. He continued to act during the year as a member of the Council of Inland Fisheries Trust and supervised the work involving engineering considerations being carried out by the Trust.

Advice and assistance were afforded to Boards of Conservators and Angling Associations on various engineering matters such as the construction of fish passes, hatcheries and the protection of smolts descending through waters used by industrial concerns. In particular a scheme for the rehabilitation of the Oughterard hatchery was prepared together with the necessary plans and estimates for the Galway and Corrib Anglers' Association and advice on the construction of a fish trap for the Killarney hatchery was given to the Killarney Anglers' Association.

LEGISLATION.—During the year one Statutory Instrument and two Definitions were made, particulars of which are given in Appendix 20.

(Sgd.) JAMES M. DILLON,

MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE.

23rd May, 1956.

APPENDICES TO THE REPORT ON SEA AND INLAND FISHERIES FOR THE YEAR 1955.

SEA FISHERIES.

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APPENDIX No. 1.

Total Quantity and Value of SEA FISH (excluding Salmon) returned as LANDED during the year 1955.

KINDS OF FISH	EAST COAST (Owcaith to Carnsore Point)		SOUTH COAST (Carnsore Point to Loop Head)		WEST COAST (Loop Head to Erris Head)		NORTH COAST (Erris Head to Moville)		TOTAL	
	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£	Cwt.	£
Brill ...	62	560	666	5,805	301	2,624	175	1,559	1,204	10,548
Cod ...	14,408	73,157	2,406	10,115	845	4,127	6,613	26,660	24,272	114,059
Conger Eel ...	351	431	174	395	—	—	102	284	627	1,110
Haddock ...	320	1,416	12,169	23,623	468	1,421	6,441	12,478	19,398	38,938
Hake ...	1,268	8,539	265	849	781	1,687	622	3,234	2,936	14,309
Ling ...	49	94	72	174	80	235	424	1,072	625	1,575
Plaice ...	8,355	49,942	6,831	50,515	1,914	16,236	5,742	47,335	22,842	164,028
Ray or Skate ...	7,671	19,474	9,486	18,882	3,181	7,430	4,349	14,302	24,687	60,988
Soles ...	327	4,753	1,294	13,084	181	2,107	143	1,939	1,945	21,883
Turbot ...	109	965	502	3,545	237	2,093	108	984	956	7,587
Whiting ...	31,942	44,675	19,944	36,824	10,141	17,526	6,798	11,132	68,825	110,157
Other kinds ...	4,373	10,019	9,633	21,087	3,263	8,440	8,330	9,362	25,599	48,908
TOTAL DEMERSAL	60,235	214,025	63,442	184,898	21,302	63,926	39,847	130,341	193,916	593,190
Herrings	8,530	8,022	32,387	26,481	3,072	5,668	52,571	33,611	96,560	73,782
Mackerel	120	180	6,704	10,086	1,775	3,808	2,964	4,839	11,563	18,913
Sprats	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,480	310	1,480	310
TOTAL PELAGIC	8,650	8,202	39,091	36,567	4,847	9,476	57,015	38,760	109,603	93,005
TOTAL WET FISH	77,885	222,227	102,533	221,465	26,239	73,402	96,862	169,101	303,519	686,195
Crabs	No. 20,156	459	No. 19,598	576	No. —	—	No. 30,800	980	No. 70,554	2,015
Crayfish	—	—	70,598	19,754	43,696	11,519	1,104	293	115,398	31,566
Escallops	3,400	17	300,108	4,294	218,654	2,729	—	—	522,162	7,040
Lobsters	38,166	6,589	155,308	34,926	120,660	24,297	141,458	26,247	455,592	92,059
Oysters	—	—	53,770	543	213,841	2,557	—	—	267,611	3,109
Norway Lobsters	Cwt. 4,181	13,815	Cwt. —	—	Cwt. —	—	Cwt. —	—	Cwt. 4,181	13,815
Mussels	4,353	1,630	20,585	5,527	—	—	240	73	25,178	7,229
Periwinkles	3,239	2,656	14,298	13,550	16,753	16,293	6,702	6,040	40,992	38,539
Other Shellfish	5	21	614	719	—	—	—	—	619	740
TOTAL VALUE SHELLFISH	—	25,187	—	79,889	—	57,395	—	33,632	—	196,163
TOTAL VALUE ALL FISH	—	247,414	—	301,354	—	130,797	—	202,733	—	882,298

APPENDIX No. 2.

Comparison for the eight years, 1948-55, of the Average Prices per cwt. of various kinds of Sea Fish.

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brill ...	7 1 11	7 12 9	8 6 5	7 14 5	8 14 11	9 7 10	8 9 10	8 15 3
Cod ...	3 11 9	4 13 6	4 14 2	4 15 3	4 5 7	4 11 4	5 1 4	4 14 0
Conger Eel ...	1 13 3	1 13 5	1 16 7	1 18 0	1 16 2	1 3 2	1 11 0	1 15 5
Haddock ...	2 5 6	3 16 3	4 7 0	4 15 4	3 12 8	2 2 2	2 8 5	2 0 2
Hake ...	4 16 3	4 10 0	4 7 4	3 8 11	2 18 7	2 18 0	3 18 3	4 17 6
Ling ...	2 7 1	2 7 7	2 5 9	2 5 3	3 6 0	3 16 4	3 10 7	2 10 5
Plaice ...	4 18 4	5 15 0	5 15 0	5 19 2	5 10 11	5 8 9	7 11 2	7 3 7
Ray or Skato ...	1 18 4	1 17 11	2 2 8	2 3 9	2 5 10	2 12 5	2 12 11	2 8 8
Soles ...	9 10 4	10 2 4	9 18 9	10 5 9	10 8 9	9 12 6	11 5 5	11 5 0
Turbot ...	7 5 0	7 16 7	7 19 0	7 12 4	7 19 8	9 7 1	8 9 0	7 18 9
Whiting ...	1 13 4	1 10 8	1 12 10	1 13 9	1 12 10	1 14 0	1 12 8	1 12 0
Herrings ...	1 0 3	1 1 10	16 4	1 2 10	1 2 0	1 3 9	1 1 4	15 3
Mackerel ...	12 9	1 8 3	1 0 7	1 3 5	1 12 3	1 9 11	1 9 9	1 12 9
Sprats ...	5 8	6 1	5 1	6 3	8 3	8 0	3 6	4 2

N.B.—“Average price” as shown in this table represents total value divided by total weight for each kind of fish, year by year. It does not purport to take direct cognizance of any abnormal rise or fall in price attributable to a seasonal glut or shortage of a particular kind of fish.

APPENDIX No. 3.

FISH IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1955.

(as compared with those of 1954).

	Quantity		Value	
	1955	1954	1955	1954
	cwt.	cwt.	£	£
I.—IMPORTS				
Fish (except shellfish) not canned :				
Fresh, chilled or frozen...	8,097	17,529	27,827	48,928
Dried, salted, smoked or cooked	32,597	34,459	163,608	160,094
Shellfish, not canned	5,553	1,052	22,636	4,201
Fish (including shellfish) and fish preparations canned	41,243	39,382	843,318	687,318
TOTALS ...	87,490	92,422	1,057,389	900,541
II.—EXPORTS				
Fish (except shellfish)				
fresh, chilled or frozen				
Salmon	11,135	17,525	451,874	635,643
Herrings	31,389	23,653	55,683	39,057
Fresh water eels	1,922	1,917	22,951	23,138
Other fish	5,457	1,360	7,199	4,383
Fish dried, salted or smoked, not canned...	8,953	6,828	30,728	28,450
Shellfish fresh, chilled, frozen, salted, dried...	69,390	50,437	288,633	197,107
Fish (including shellfish) and fish preparations canned	45	129	899	2,479
TOTALS ...	127,391	107,849	857,967	930,257

The figures given above for exports of salmon and trout include those relating to exports from the former Moville Fishery District now comprised in the Foyle Area.

APPENDIX No. 4.

HERRING FISHING, 1955.

County	Ports at which more than 500 cwt. were landed.	Total Quantity cwt.	Value £
Louth ... }	Greenore & Carlingford Clogher Head	5,819	4,564
Dublin ... }	Howth ... }	1,306	1,142
Wicklow ... }		366	843
Wexford ... }	Kilmore Duncannon ... }	2,861	3,827
Waterford ... }	Passage East Dunmore East Ballinagoul ... }	25,041	18,327
Cork ... }	Ballycotton ... }	4,772	4,564
Kerry ... }		722	1,236
Clare ... }		87	174
Galway ... }	Galway ... }	770	1,760
Mayo ... }	Achill Keel & Keem ... }	2,215	3,734
Sligo ... }		7	17
Donegal ... }	Port & Inver ... Killybegs Burton Port Kincasslagh ... Bunbeg Magheraroarty Downings	52,564	33,594
	TOTALS ...	96,560	73,782

APPENDIX No. 5.

MACKEREL FISHING, 1955.

County	Ports at which more than 250 cwt. were landed.	Total Quantity cwt.	Value £
Louth		120	180
Wexford		320	523
Waterford ...	} Passage East Bunnahon Dunabratton	1,210	1,810
Cork	} Old Head Castletownsend Baltimore Castletownbere	3,437	5,475
Kerry ...	} Sneem Portmagee Valentia	1,737	2,278
Clare		433	1,124
Galway	Aran Islands	1,049	2,245
Mayo	Lacken	1,833	3,520
Sligo		217	415
Donegal	Port & Inver ...	1,207	1,343
	TOTALS	11,563	18,913

APPENDIX No. 6.
PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN FISHING; AND REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION AND CLASSIFICATION OF FISHING CRAFT IN 1955.

HOW ENGAGED (i.e., whether solely or partially)	MEN	Steam Vessels		Motor Vessels						Sail Boats						Row Boats		Total Vessels
		200 tons gross and over	100 tons gross and over but less than 200 tons.	1st Class			2nd Class		3rd Class	1st Class		2nd Class		3rd Class	Un-classed A	Un-classed B		
				25 tons gross and over.	20 tons gross and over but less than 25 tons.	15 tons gross and over but less than 20 tons.	10 tons gross and over but less than 15 tons and of 18 feet keel and upwards.	Under 10 tons and of 18 feet keel and upwards.	Less than 18 feet keel.	25 tons net and over.	20 tons net and over but less than 25 tons.	15 tons net and over but less than 20 tons.	10 tons net and over but less than 15 tons and of 18 feet keel and upwards.	Under 10 tons and of 18 feet keel and upwards.	Less than 18 feet keel.	Open boats of 18 feet keel and upwards and canoes of 18 feet or more over all.	Open boats of less than 18 feet keel and canoes of less than 18 feet over all.	
EAST COAST : Solely engaged Partially engaged Laid-up	505 612 —	— — —	— — —	51 4 7	2 — 1	11 1 —	10 — 3	16 35 9	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	15 14 1	10 13 —	51 52 16	— 14 —	177 135 41	
Totals	1,117	—	—	59	9	14	16	60	2	—	—	—	30	23	119	21	353	
SOUTH COAST : Solely engaged Partially engaged Laid-up	642 1,716 —	— — —	— — —	29 — —	3 1 —	6 1 —	30 — 8	131 55 42	12 6 1	— — —	— — —	— — —	5 3 5	53 39 11	196 119 162	63 93 31	507 378 227	
Totals	2,358	—	—	29	4	7	46	228	19	—	—	—	13	133	89	417	1,172	
WEST COAST : Solely engaged Partially engaged Laid-up	197 1,069 —	— — —	— — —	9 — —	6 2 —	4 — —	3 — —	29 10 —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— 2 —	53 23 19	17 31 11	235 73 54	180 196 56	536 341 142
Totals	2,166	—	—	9	8	6	5	41	—	—	—	—	2	95	50	362	432	1,019
NORTH COAST : Solely engaged Partially engaged Laid-up	286 1,687 —	— — —	— — —	16 1 —	1 — —	7 — 1	9 — —	104 20 15	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— 1 —	146 43 53	7 15 5	146 16 31	53 45 20	489 141 127
Totals	1,973	—	—	19	1	8	9	139	—	—	—	—	1	242	27	193	118	757
TOTALS FOR 1955 : Solely engaged Partially engaged Laid-up	1,630 5,984 —	— — —	— — —	105 — 9	18 — 1	28 4 3	52 13 11	280 120 68	12 8 1	— — —	— — —	— — —	— 6 5	267 133 100	73 98 27	628 200 203	301 348 109	1,769 995 537
Totals	7,614	—	—	118	22	35	76	468	21	—	—	—	16	500	198	1,091	758	3,301

APPENDIX No. 7.

TRAWLING AND SEINING, 1955.

Port or Locality	Number of men engaged	Number of boats engaged	Tonnage of Motor Boats			Fishing Period
			Not exceeding 10 tons	Over 10 tons	Over 15 tons	
Blackrock (Co. Louth)	3	1	1	—	—	April to November.
Clogher Head	40	8	1	—	—	All year.
Balbriggan	25	5	—	—	5	All year.
Skerries	5	1	—	1	—	All year.
Loughshinny	30	6	—	—	6	All year.
Howth	60	10	—	—	10	All year.
Dun Laoghaire	35	5	—	—	5	All year.
Bray	4	1	1	—	—	May to September.
Wicklow	8	1	—	—	1	All year.
Arklow	70	18	—	3	15	All year.
Courtown	5	1	—	1	—	May to September.
Wexford	36	4	1	—	4	All year.
Rosslare Harbour	4	1	—	—	4	All year.
Carnore & St. Helen's	4	1	1	—	—	May to October.
Kilmore Quay	50	12	5	5	2	All year.
Duncannon and Ballyhack	16	5	5	—	—	All year.
Passage East and Checkpoint	24	6	6	—	—	All year.
Dunmore East	38	9	2	2	5	All year.
Helvieck and Ballinagoul	22	5	4	—	1	All year.
Ballycotton	30	9	7	—	—	All year.
Passage West	4	1	1	—	—	April to October.
Crosshaven and Ringaskilly	4	1	1	—	—	April to November.
Cobh	22	6	5	1	—	All year.
Kinsale	4	1	—	1	—	All year.
Union Hall	18	4	—	—	4	All year.
Castletownsend	20	5	—	4	1	All year.
Baltimore	14	3	—	1	2	All year.
Schull	38	15	12	—	3	Seiners—All year. Others—mostly Summer months.
Bantry	6	1	—	1	—	All year.
Castletownbere and Bere Island	24	4	—	—	4	All year.
Cape Clear	12	3	—	—	1	All year.
Lauragh and Kilmackilloge	9	3	—	3	—	All year.
Ballinskelligs	6	1	—	—	1	All year.
Portmagee	24	4	—	—	4	All year.
Cahiriveen and Valentia	21	3	3	—	2	All year.
Ringie	70	13	—	6	7	All year.
Ferry	3	1	1	—	—	Summer months mainly.
Liscannor	8	2	2	—	—	March to October.
Arran Islands	24	4	—	—	4	All year.
Galway	26	4	—	—	4	All year.
Carna	3	1	1	—	—	April to October.
Inishkeeffa	12	4	—	3	1	April to October.
Merriack	4	1	—	—	1	All year.
Achill Sound	23	7	—	1	3	All year.
Ballina	6	2	1	—	1	May to September.
Ballycastle and Lacken	6	2	2	—	—	May to August.
Kilcummin and Killa	6	2	2	—	—	May to August.
Ennisrone	15	3	3	—	—	February to October.
Bundoran	3	1	1	—	—	June to September.
Killybegs	80	16	—	—	16	All year.
Birtouport and Arranmore Island	10	3	3	—	—	February to November.
Bunbeg	9	3	3	—	—	Almost all year.
Dunfanaghy and Portashugh	8	2	—	—	—	May to October.
Downings	8	2	—	1	1	February to October.
Buncrana and Such Island	6	1	—	—	1	All year.
Malin Head	3	1	1	—	—	April to September.
Calduff, Glengad and Portaleen	24	6	4	2	—	April to December.
Greencastle	48	12	7	4	1	All year.
Moyle	20	6	1	2	3	All year.
TOTALS	1,175	273	95	50	128	

APPENDIX No. 8.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

in respect of

Repayable Advances made to the Irish Sea Fisheries Association, Ltd., during the period of twenty-four years to the date of the Association's dissolution, 23rd April, 1952, and to An Bord Iascaigh Mhara, as from that date to 31st March, 1955, for the provision of boats and gear to fishermen.

	£		£
Repayable with Interest on an annuity basis in respect of:—		Repayments to 31st March, 1954	199,614
(a) Advances amounting to £538,500, made up to 31st March, 1954	810,158	Repayments made during year ended 31st March, 1955	22,428
(b) Advances amounting to £75,000, made during year ended 31st March, 1955	117,513	Balance outstanding:—	
		Due in arrear	£72,206
		Instalments and Interest not matured	£633,423
	£927,671		£927,671

NOTE.—Advances made to the Association and the Board are repayable on the basis of a twenty year annuity in half-yearly instalments.

APPENDIX No. 9.

Quantity and Value of all Salmon and Sea Trout taken in each of the Three Years 1953, 1954 and 1955 by Instruments of Capture.

SALMON.						
	1955	1954	1953	1955	1954	1953
	lb.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£
(A)	1,261,402	1,976,677	1,851,407	363,788	500,243	525,105
(B)	246,537	293,091	211,129	69,082	74,555	59,576
(C)	234,648	474,511	371,380	63,043	117,790	100,548
(D)	606,437	921,332	893,191	175,569	239,052	248,711
(E)	173,780	287,743	375,707	56,094	77,846	116,270

SEA TROUT.						
	1955	1954	1953	1955	1954	1953
	lb.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£
(A)	73,201	70,854	61,838	10,824	10,800	8,431
(B)	42,285	48,334	43,826	5,931	7,117	5,621
(C)	1,432	2,054	2,308	246	376	505
(D)	27,509	19,462	13,240	4,273	3,122	1,757
(E)	1,975	1,004	2,464	374	185	548

(A)=Total for all engines.

(B)=Total for rod and line.

(C)=Total for drift nets.

(D)=Total for draft nets.

(E)=Total for stake nets, weirs, etc.

This Appendix does not include returns from the former Merville Fishery District.

APPENDIX No. 10.

Quantity and Value of Salmon taken in each of the Three Years 1953, 1954 and 1955 by Fishery Districts.

Fishery District	*	Quantity			Value		
		1955 lb.	1954 lb.	1953 lb.	1955 £	1954 £	1953 £
Dublin	R	4,703	3,167	3,171	1,591	922	1,129
	N	4,329	3,683	9,110	1,260	1,081	2,936
Wexford	R	24,059	21,290	16,571	7,079	5,595	5,080
	N	40,768	39,361	38,983	13,096	12,136	12,601
Waterford	R	33,854	36,816	21,660	9,745	9,493	6,189
	N	111,742	250,278	250,173	33,133	62,009	74,291
Lismore	R	37,590	42,650	18,816	10,104	10,349	4,533
	N	142,713	260,084	158,273	41,833	65,265	43,681
Cork	R	28,383	32,003	20,310	8,044	8,386	6,117
	N	78,487	184,432	91,791	27,656	51,871	27,670
Kerry	R	21,060	20,940	20,681	5,571	6,773	5,673
	N	94,240	150,180	121,349	26,466	32,615	34,044
Limerick	R	34,117	51,484	39,660	9,342	13,177	11,379
	N	115,898	196,005	184,614	35,850	53,500	58,839
Galway	R	4,438	3,452	5,108	1,285	914	1,365
	N	9,685	43,447	55,057	2,876	10,620	17,538
Connemara	R	5,526	4,804	7,610	1,658	1,276	2,285
	N	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ballinakill	R	4,461	4,792	0,464	1,263	1,182	1,767
	N	11,667	25,025	18,060	2,340	5,344	3,940
Bangor	R	4,543	0,171	4,849	1,257	1,478	1,331
	N	65,608	70,357	64,629	15,339	17,742	16,676
Ballina	R	14,567	18,266	14,286	3,379	4,353	3,600
	N	132,719	165,485	228,220	36,975	37,555	56,200
Sligo	R	3,303	4,469	3,281	850	1,105	886
	N	18,045	20,577	44,720	5,648	6,136	13,850
Ballyshannon	R	2,494	3,087	3,131	753	758	810
	N	55,013	74,028	129,246	14,235	18,234	37,597
Letterkenny	R	14,293	20,656	15,456	3,375	4,771	4,006
	N	76,431	123,260	142,289	19,362	26,238	34,845
Dundalk	R	538	710	1,120	139	151	280
	N	16,762	24,931	23,903	4,678	6,509	6,555
Drogheda	R	8,593	12,374	9,099	2,978	3,872	3,056
	N	40,958	61,638	72,271	13,959	18,842	24,657
TOTALS	...	1,261,402	1,976,677	1,851,407	363,768	500,243	525,165

*R indicates capture by means of single rod and line; N by means of nets, weirs, etc.

APPENDIX No. 11.

Quantity and Value of Sea Trout taken in each of the Three Years 1953, 1954 and 1955 by Fishery Districts.

Fishery District	*	Quantity			Value		
		1955 lb.	1954 lb.	1953 lb.	1955 £	1954 £	1953 £
Dublin ...	R	841	1,198	658	133	192	90
	N	7,677	4,067	3,059	1,245	809	505
Wexford ...	R	2,771	2,964	1,796	388	414	200
	N	3,985	2,822	2,623	534	423	291
Waterford ...	R	870	561	240	110	86	30
	N	294	228	800	49	40	158
Lismore ...	R	550	507	293	79	81	51
	N	1,106	1,554	2,467	146	196	312
Cork ...	R	8,454	5,857	6,165	1,146	805	789
	N	2,459	803	423	354	93	46
Kerry ...	R	8,000	13,489	11,212	1,171	1,939	1,429
	N	3,070	2,349	2,378	521	313	515
Limerick ...	R	986	1,187	1,874	160	202	228
	N	4,275	6,748	1,978	827	1,257	371
Galway ...	R	809	1,075	1,101	147	147	147
	N	97	89	561	13	15	79
Connemara ...	R	8,842	9,549	9,149	1,106	1,432	1,169
	N	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ballinakill ...	R	2,670	2,526	3,554	370	378	402
	N	502	150	444	58	14	52
Bangor ...	R	1,097	2,550	2,869	206	363	377
	N	1,395	729	1,459	178	107	187
Ballina ...	R	167	354	799	25	67	102
	N	197	114	171	25	15	22
Sligo ...	R	131	213	144	19	31	20
	N	85	92	51	10	18	9
Ballyshannon ...	R	295	270	96	43	36	12
	N	2,424	333	175	389	45	23
Letterkenny ...	R	3,392	3,370	2,528	492	534	312
	N	478	681	338	61	99	45
Dundalk ...	R	291	258	234	29	41	32
	N	1,396	1,117	471	210	129	61
Drogheda ...	R	1,309	2,426	1,124	217	369	171
	N	1,476	554	524	273	110	74
TOTALS ...		73,201	70,854	61,838	10,824	10,800	8,431

*R indicates capture by single rod and line; N by means of nets, weirs, etc.

APPENDIX No. 12.

Quantity and Value of Eels taken in each of the Three
Years 1953, 1954 and 1955 by Fishery Districts.

Fishery District	Quantity			Value		
	1955 lb.	1954 lb.	1953 lb.	1955 £	1954 £	1953 £
Waterford	8,543	4,949	9,084	706	385	667
Limerick ...	89,678	87,611	66,188	9,568	11,658	7,250
Galway ...	52,866	32,584	78,747	5,800	4,979	8,627
Bangor ...	Nil	91	109	Nil	12	12
Ballina ...	13,509	3,836	13,346	1,325	384	1,279
Sligo ...	4,263	2,920	7,201	350	353	522
Ballyshannon ...	5,744	1,030	992	664	78	50
Dundalk ...	4,348	3,395	6,110	347	332	446
Drogheda ...	8,227	7,056	7,618	773	712	869
TOTALS ...	187,177	143,372	189,395	19,433	17,993	19,722

NOTE.—Eel Fishing was not carried on in the following Districts during the period 1953/55: Dublin, Wexford, Lismore, Cork, Kerry, Connemara, Ballinakill and Letterkenny.

APPENDIX No. 13.

Total Quantity and Value of Salmon, Sea Trout and Eels
taken by all engines in each of the Three Years 1953,
1954 and 1955 by Fishery Districts.

Fishery District	Total Weight for District			Total Value for District		
	1955 lb.	1954 lb.	1953 lb.	1955 £	1954 £	1953 £
Dublin ...	17,550	12,315	15,998	4,229	3,004	4,720
Wexford ...	71,583	66,437	59,973	21,997	18,568	18,172
Waterford ...	155,303	292,832	288,047	43,743	72,913	81,335
Lismore ...	181,965	305,295	179,840	52,222	75,891	48,477
Cork ...	117,783	223,185	118,689	37,800	61,155	34,622
Kerry ...	126,379	192,964	155,520	33,729	41,640	41,661
Limerick ...	244,954	342,915	294,204	55,747	79,794	78,067
Galway ...	67,894	80,647	141,234	10,121	15,775	27,756
Connemara ...	14,368	14,413	16,765	2,764	2,708	3,454
Ballinakill ...	19,200	32,493	29,422	4,031	6,918	5,921
Bangor ...	73,443	79,898	73,915	17,070	19,702	18,583
Ballina ...	161,159	178,055	256,822	41,729	42,374	61,293
Sligo ...	25,827	28,271	55,397	6,886	7,643	15,296
Ballyshannon ...	65,970	78,748	133,630	15,984	19,151	38,492
Lettirkenny ...	94,594	147,976	160,611	23,290	31,642	39,208
Dundalk ...	23,245	30,411	31,928	5,493	7,153	7,374
Drogheda ...	60,563	84,048	96,636	18,200	23,905	28,827
TOTALS...	1,521,780	2,190,903	2,102,640	394,045	529,036	553,258

APPENDIX No. 14.

Number, Quantity and Value of Salmon taken by Single Rod and Line during each of the Three Years 1953, 1954 and 1955 by Fishery Districts.

Fishery District	No. of Fish			Quantity			Value		
	1955	1954	1953	1955	1954	1953	1955	1954	1953
				lb.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£
Dublin ...	504	296	300	4,703	3,167	3,171	1,391	922	1,129
Wexford ...	2,268	2,097	1,591	24,059	21,290	16,571	7,079	5,595	5,080
Waterford ...	3,496	3,799	2,877	33,854	36,816	21,660	9,745	9,493	6,189
Lismore ...	4,073	4,622	2,368	37,596	42,550	18,816	10,164	10,349	4,533
Cork ...	3,000	3,439	2,342	28,383	32,003	20,310	8,644	8,386	6,117
Kerry ...	2,777	3,238	2,730	21,069	26,940	20,581	5,571	6,773	5,673
Limerick ...	4,312	6,150	5,287	34,117	51,484	39,550	9,342	13,177	11,379
Galway ...	712	430	717	4,438	3,452	5,168	1,285	914	1,363
Connemara ...	614	608	1,088	5,526	4,861	7,616	1,658	1,276	2,285
Ballinakill ...	662	655	939	4,461	4,792	6,464	1,263	1,182	1,767
Bangor ...	532	731	668	4,543	6,171	4,849	1,257	1,478	1,331
Ballina ...	2,227	2,302	2,235	14,567	18,266	14,286	3,379	4,353	3,690
Sligo ...	415	538	429	3,303	4,469	3,281	859	1,105	886
Ballyshannon	309	334	359	2,494	3,087	3,131	753	758	810
Letterkenny ...	2,958	2,953	2,263	14,293	20,656	15,456	3,375	4,771	4,006
Dundalk ...	50	66	109	538	710	1,120	139	151	280
Drogheda ...	552	961	630	8,593	12,374	9,090	2,978	3,872	3,056
TOTALS...	28,581	33,225	26,931	246,537	293,091	211,129	60,082	74,555	59,576

APPENDIX No. 15.

Number, Quantity and Value of Sea Trout taken by Single Rod and Line during each of the Three Years 1953, 1954 and 1955 by Fishery Districts.

Fishery District	No. of Fish			Quantity			Value		
	1953	1954	1953	1953	1954	1953	1953	1954	1953
				lb.	lb.	lb.	£	£	£
Dublin	1,020	1,269	702	841	1,198	658	133	102	90
Wexford	4,207	4,419	2,633	2,771	2,964	1,796	388	411	200
Waterford ...	910	567	283	870	561	240	110	86	30
Lismore	510	549	292	550	507	293	79	81	51
Cork	12,071	7,419	8,261	8,454	5,857	6,166	1,146	805	789
Kerry	6,425	11,644	9,519	8,000	13,480	11,212	1,171	1,939	1,429
Limerick	1,258	1,373	2,185	986	1,167	1,874	160	202	228
Galway	860	1,231	951	809	1,975	1,101	147	147	147
Connemara ...	8,842	9,549	9,149	8,842	9,549	9,149	1,106	1,432	1,169
Ballinakill ...	2,712	2,666	3,745	2,670	2,526	3,554	370	378	462
Bangor	1,963	2,470	3,025	1,997	2,550	2,869	296	363	377
Ballina	158	422	996	167	354	799	25	67	102
Sligo	74	189	168	131	213	144	19	31	20
Ballyshannon	306	314	106	295	270	86	43	36	12
Letterkenny	4,143	4,252	2,702	3,362	3,370	2,528	492	534	312
Dundalk	222	273	324	201	258	234	29	41	32
Drogheda	1,073	2,099	978	1,309	2,426	1,124	217	369	171
TOTALS...	46,754	50,705	46,019	42,285	48,334	43,826	5,931	7,117	5,621

APPENDIX No. 16.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF BOARDS OF CONSERVATORS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

Fishery District	Opening Balance	RECEIPTS						EXPENDITURE					Closing Balance
		Licence Duty	Fishery Rate	Subscriptions	Grant from Department	Miscellaneous Receipts	Total Receipts	Water Keepers	Law Costs	Salaries and Commissions	Traveling and Miscellaneous	Total Expenditure	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Dublin ...	1,322	754	142	138	—	118	1,152	522	30	802	475	1,829	645
Wexford ...	317	1,098	1,145	—	204	67	2,514	1,457	36	265	653	2,411	420
Waterford ...	1,801	2,270	2,399	—	1,800	300	6,769	3,847	141	1,163	1,338	6,489	2,081
Lismore ...	640	1,260	5,059	—	614	283	7,246	4,121	88	928	1,245	6,382	1,504
Cork ...	31	1,752	1,475	7	3,000	880	7,114	3,908	656	856	1,328	6,748	397
Kerry ...	984	1,619	2,468	—	1,520	113	5,726	2,553	90	2,123	1,114	5,880	830
Limerick ...	—	2,326	5,029	3,011†	3,014	6,233§	19,613	5,937	541	1,623	1,876	9,977	9,636
Galway ...	1,349	348	1,970	—	103	79	2,500	1,495	—	487	399	2,381	1,468
Connemara ...	766	507	1,209	—	12	7	1,735	1,571	—	260	269	2,100	401
Ballinakill ...	640	305	895	—	200	8	1,408	898	—	357	200	1,455	593
Bangor ...	558	623	1,032	—	622	196	2,473	1,465	52	417	380	2,314	717
Ballina ...	708	678	2,982	—	—	221	3,881	2,770	61	390	736	3,957	633
Sligo ...	729	261	879	—	108	28	1,276	570	17	280	228	1,095	910
Ballyshannon...	55	495	1,403*	76	1,108	96	3,178	1,886	30	418	592	2,926	307
Letterkenny ...	1,508	1,425	1,327†	25	280	85	3,142	1,980	210	609	518	3,317	1,333
Drogheda ...	611	1,112	1,259	—	605	11	2,987	1,969	24	511	263	2,767	831
Dundalk ...	40	211	383	—	201	32	827	308	16	320	70	723	144
TOTALS ...	12,060	17,044	31,086	3,257	13,397	8,757	73,541	37,257	1,992	11,818	11,684	62,751	22,850

*This figure includes £1,024 received under Section 14 (1) of the Fisheries (Tidal Waters) Act, 1934.

†This figure includes £161 received under Section 14 (1) of the Fisheries (Tidal Waters) Act, 1934.

‡Includes special grant of £3,000 paid by Electricity Supply Board.

§This figure includes £6,000 received by way of bank overdraft.

Sums received by way of Special Local Licence duty which were paid over to the Exchequer in accordance with Section 13 of the Fisheries (Tidal Waters) Act, 1934, are not included in this Table.

APPENDIX No. 17.

PARTICULARS OF LICENCES ISSUED BY BOARDS OF
CONSERVATORS FOR THE YEAR 1955.

Fishery District	Salmon Rod				Snap Net	Draft Net	Drift Net	Pole Net	Bag Net	Stake Net	Box or Crib	Gap, Eye or Basket for Eels	Long Lines for Eels	Loop Net	Eel Trap	Special Local Licence (Tidal Waters)
	For one year (£2)	For 14 days (£1)	Issuable at £1 from 1st July onwards	Endorsement or Extension												
Dublin ...	302	5	53	11	—	8	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wexford ...	227	65	149	92	—	95	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Waterford ...	735	35	8	40	105	19	82	—	1	3	3	9	—	—	—	—
Lismore ...	365	104	—	73	23	13	70	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cork ...	532	47	178	35	—	78	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kerry ...	503	231	—	100	1	62	2	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Limerick ...	713	15	12	123	—	85	71	—	—	4	4	30	19	—	—	—
Galway ...	52	42	72	9	—	8	—	—	—	—	5	19	3	—	—	—
Counemara ...	82	291	—	90	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballinakill ...	58	122	—	45	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bangor ...	147	96	—	53	—	41	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballina ...	137	69	9	67	—	13	35	—	—	—	7	33	—	—	—	—
Sligo ...	102	6	—	0	—	6	2	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Ballyshannon	102	—	—	10	—	51	1	—	—	—	1	9	1	—	2	13
Letterkenny	408	115	—	179	—	32	55	—	—	—	2	—	—	31	—	13
Drogheda	324	10	—	83	—	85	—	—	—	—	6	3	1	—	2	—
Dundalk	48	—	33	8	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	4,837	1,253	514	1,045	129	625	383	2	7	9	32	101	29	31	4	26

APPENDIX No. 18.

Licence Duty payable on the undermentioned fishing engines.

		£	s.	d.
On each	Salmon Rod (for full year in one District) ...	2	0	0
Do.	Salmon Rod (14 days licence issuable where Board of Conservators so resolves) ...	1	0	0
Do.	Salmon Rod (special licence available 1st July to end of season issuable where a Board of Conservators so resolves) ...	1	0	0
Do.	Salmon Rod (Endorsement, extending a current licence to another District) ...	0	10	0
Do.	Snap Net ...	2	10	0
Do.	Draft Net or Seine ...	4	0	0
Do.	Drift Net ...	3	0	0
Do.	Bag Net ...	10	0	0
Do.	Fly Net ...	30	0	0
Do.	Stake Net ...	30	0	0
Do.	Head Weir ...	6	0	0
Do.	Box or Crib ...	10	0	0
Do.	Gap, Eye, or Basket (in eel weir) ...	2	0	0
Do.	Long Line for Eels ...	2	0	0

On other engines the duty is as follows :—

Fishery District				Pole Net	Loop Net	Eel Trap	Special Local Licences	
							Rod	Draft Net
				£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
1.	Dublin	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
2.	Wexford	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
3.	Waterford	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
4.	Lismore	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
5.	Cork	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
7.	Kerry	...	...	1 0	—	—	—	—
8.	Limerick	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
9 ¹ .	Galway	...	...	2 0	—	15 0	—	—
9 ² .	Connemara	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
10 ¹ .	Ballinakill	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
10 ² .	Bangor	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
11.	Ballina	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
12.	Sligo	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—
13.	Ballyhannon	...	...	2 0	—	2 0	*2 0	*40 0
14 ¹ .	Letterkenny	...	...	2 0	0 10	—	†2 0	†12 10
17 ¹ .	Drogheda	...	...	2 0	0 10	2 0	—	—
17 ² .	Dundalk	...	...	2 0	—	—	—	—

*River Erne Tidal Waters. †River Lackagh Tidal Waters.

‡River Owenea Tidal Waters.

APPENDIX No. 19.

PUBLIC INQUIRIES HELD DURING THE YEAR 1955.

Date of Inquiry	Where held	Subject Matter	Decision taken after consideration of report of inquiry.
3rd January, 1955	Athlone	Modification of the existing Bye-law governing the close season for the taking of salmon and trout by rod and line in the Shannon, its lakes and tributaries, north of the bridge at Portanna, Co. Galway.	Alteration of existing close season regulations for angling would not be warranted.
29th August, 1955	Croom ...	{ Use of thread-line fishing gear for the capture of fish in the rivers Maigue and Deel and their tributaries.	Prohibition of thread line fishing by bye-law would not be warranted.
30th August, 1955	Askeaton		
31st August, 1955	Fermoy	Use of thread-line fishing gear for the capture of fish in the river Blackwater and its tributaries.	do.

APPENDIX No. 20.

**ABSTRACT OF ORDERS, BYE-LAWS, ETC., MADE DURING
THE YEAR 1955.****STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.**

Shannon Fisheries (Closing of Free Gap) (No. 18) Order, 1955
(S.I. No. 262 of 1955) dated 20th December, 1955.

AUTHORISING the Electricity Supply Board for the purpose of acquiring statistical information to close the free gap in the Thomond fishing weir, Limerick, during certain specified periods in 1956, subject to certain conditions as to the release of fish taken in the traps of the weir.

BYE-LAWS, ETC.

No. 17² or Dundalk District.

Definition No. D144.

DEFINING the tidal and freshwater boundary of the river Fane and **REVOKING** the definition of the boundary made on 16th May, 1871.

No. 10² or Bangor District.

Definition No. D145.

DEFINING the tidal and freshwater boundary of the Owenmore river and **REVOKING** the definition of the boundary made on 15th December, 1941.

APPENDIX No. 21.

OUTPUT OF SALMON AND TROUT FRY, 1954/55.

Hatching or Enlarging Station	Where liberated	Salmon	Sea Trout	Brown Trout
Crumlin ...	Brittas Ponds	—	—	1,500
Curragh	Liffey	—	—	24,900
Roundwood	Stream entering upper Reservoir, Bohernabreena, Vartry river and tributaries	—	—	37,000
Buncloidy ...	Rye River and stream at Luttrellstown on Liffey	—	—	40,000
Abbeyloix	River Nore	—	—	12,500
Carlow	Rivers Lerr, Greese, Burrin ...	—	—	14,000
Mountrath	Coppal Bawn River	—	—	4,000
Lismore	Knockaderry, Waterford Ballyscanlon Lake, Sneem, Slieve-nasaska, Dromtino Lake	35,000	—	35,000
Mallow ...	Kilcooley Lake, Rivers Blackwater, Bride, Funcheson, Clyda, Awbeg, Caithre, Finnée, Glen, Araglin	675,000	—	73,000
Glengarriff	Lakes Avaul and Avaul Little ...	—	—	20,000
Blarney	Tributaries of River Lee	—	—	30,000
Skibbereen	Den river tributaries...	20,000	—	—
Killarney	Kilbreem Lake and Killarney Lakes	120,000	—	20,500
Sheen	Sheen River	78,000	—	—
Sneem	Sneem River, Dromtino Lake ...	17,500	—	—
Waterville	Coppal River, Tinneghaise River, Cumberagh River...	20,000	—	—
Adare	Maigue	—	—	23,000
Bunbrosna	Rivers AJ, Cross, Inny and Dalgorman	—	—	47,500
Cullane	Cullane Lake	—	—	32,000
Lough Ennell	Lough Ennell tributaries	—	—	110,000
Mount Talbot	Tributaries of both Lake O'Flynn and River Suck ...	—	—	95,000
Lough Owel	Lough Owel	—	—	248,000
Pallas Lake	Lake Brosna tributaries and Pallas Lake	—	—	73,000
Rathkeale	Deel	—	—	900
Lough Sheelin	Lough Shooftin and tributaries ...	—	—	310,000
Loughrea	Lough Rea	—	—	60,000
Oughterard	Lake shallows and rivers	—	—	360,000
Spiddal	Spiddal River	8,600	—	—
Tuam	Claro River...	—	—	9,900
Inver	River off Gowla Lake	5,000	—	—
Screebo	River Screebo and tributaries ...	13,300	6,600	—
Clifden	Lakes in Clifden	—	—	20,500
Treanlaur	Burrishoole River and Lakes, Newport River and tributaries, Keel lake and tributaries	252,500	—	—
Ballisodare	Tributaries of Rivers Arrow and Owenmore	134,000	—	—

APPENDIX No. 21—continued.

Hatching or Enlarging Station	Where liberated	Salmon	Sea Trout	Brown Trout
Collooney ...	Lakes Tuberscannavan and Castledargan	—	—	23,000
Glencar ...	Bonnet and tributaries Differeon River and tributaries to Glencar Lake, Colga Lake ...	14,250	—	33,500
Sligo ...	Lough Gill ...	14,700	—	9,800
Bullybuy ...	Lake Major	—	—	14,000
Cootohill ...	Rivers Annalee and Finn, Clonon Reservoirs	—	—	58,000
Glenties ...	Rivers Owenaa, Finn and other Donegal rivers and lakes ...	370,000	7,850	27,000
Glenveagh	Lough Veagh	5,000	—	—
Drumconrath	River Dea ...	—	—	3,000
Iniskeen ...	Rivers Fane, Dee and Glyde ...	9,600	—	30,000
Blackcastle	Boyne, Delvin Rivers	140,000	—	51,000
Virginia ...	Blackwater	—	—	5,000
	TOTALS	1,941,450	14,450	1,974,500

NOTE :—In addition to the output of fry recorded in the above table for the Lisnmore, Killarney, Glenties, Lough Owel and Lough Ennell hatcheries the following quantities of eyed ova were despatched from those hatcheries to other stations and are included in the figures for the latter, viz., Lisnmore 75,000 salmon ova, Killarney 60,000 salmon ova, Glenties, 420,000 salmon ova, Lough Owel, 515,000 brown trout ova, Lough Ennell, 188,000 brown trout ova. Thirty thousand salmon ova were hatched at the Lisnattunny Hatchery and the fry liberated in the River Finn.

APPENDIX No. 22.

LIST OF SCIENTIFIC PAPERS, ETC., BY OFFICERS OF THE FISHERIES
BRANCH PUBLISHED DURING THE YEAR.

H. W. ELKIN. "Whiting (*Gadus merlangus* L.) in Irish waters".
Scientific Proceedings Royal Dublin Society 27. (N.S.) No. 2
December, 1955.

ANN HEALY. "Further records of two specimens of Ray's Bream
Brama raii, Bloch. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* xi. 254.
January, 1955.

—————"Report on scheme for the reduction of coarse
fishes". *Department of Agriculture Dublin Journal* Vol. 51.
1954-55.

ARTHUR E. J. WENT. "Notes on Irish char, *Salvelinus colii*,
Gunther. V. *Irish Naturalists' Journal*. xi pp. 246-248.
January, 1955.

—————"Specimen of torpedo or electric ray,
Torpedo nobiliana, Bonap. from the Wexford coast. *Irish
Naturalists' Journal* xi. pp. 254-5. January, 1955.

—————"Captures of specimens of char *Salvelinus*
spp. *Irish Naturalists' Journal* xi. p. 291. April, 1955.

—————"The plain bonito, *Axius rochei* Risso, and
other members of the mackerel family in Irish waters."
Irish Naturalists' Journal. xi. pp. 239-242. October, 1955.

ARTHUR E. J. WENT with K. U. VICKERS.—"Salmon and trout
research on the River Foyle". *Third Annual Report Foyle
Fisheries Commission*, 1955.

